

25, WILTON PLACE.  
S.W.

Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> 1844

My dear Gray

I don't know whether you will receive by this post from other sources the sad news of Mother's bereavement - Mr. Hooker died suddenly yesterday afternoon. I was over there in the morning and went up to the drawing room to consult Mr. Hooker about some of my family matters when she was in her usual health and spirits and as usual most kind and friendly and this morning coming out to New I was met on the bridge by the sad intelligence I found poor Mother sadly cut up he was in town on business at the time Harriet was with her mother and she poor girl is exquisitely affected

I feel the loss very much I had been  
a great deal with M<sup>rs</sup> Hooker this  
year - at Florence and at Belfast  
and I believe she never had a  
happier twelvemonth than this  
last one - Gratified with her  
husband's position pleased with her  
family and friends - ever at work  
and with fewer anxieties and better  
health than usual - she had but a  
few moments uneasiness at the last  
before she became senseless - it is  
supposed a heart attack so that she  
has been spared the long lingering  
illness she dreaded for her old age  
but she is a terrible loss to her husband  
and family. I will write again soon.

Ever yours sincerely

George Drumman